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Bartramian Audubon Society

The Bartramian Audubon Society was established as a local chapter in 1982 by three Slippery Rock University students. Now a certified chapter of the National Audubon Society, it encompasses the four-county areas of Butler, Lawrence, Mercer and Venango Counties.

As a means of encouraging private property owners to take a greater responsibility for preserving the commonwealth's rich biodiversity, the Bartramian Audubon Society developed the Wildlife Sanctuary Program. While there are neither financial rewards nor tax breaks involved in the program, it has been widely successful, protecting over 4,000 acres and establishing 45 wildlife sanctuaries. For those land owners that lacked the 20 minimum acres required by the Wildlife Sanctuary Program, the Society commenced a Bird & Butterfly Sanctuary Program that aims to promote a better understanding of wildlife and their environment. The program introduces a 'natural organic way' to invite wildlife to your home grounds. To date, 76 Bird & Butterfly Sanctuaries have been certified, protecting an additional 366 acres.

The chapter's innovative planning efforts have created areas of wildlife protection and enhancement, environmental management and sustainability and perhaps most importantly, it offers another wise conservation option other than a conservation easement or a land trust to landowners.

For more information visit www.bartramianaudubon.org